

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the accompanying application of)

DAVID M. SINGLETON, LOUIS KRAVETZ,)
and BRENDAN D. MURRAY)

This is a continuation of application Serial)
No. 09/133,303 which is a division of application)
Serial No. 08/755,843 filed November 26, 1996)

HIGHLY BRANCHED PRIMARY ALCOHOL)
COMPOSITIONS, AND BIODEGRADABLE)
DETERGENTS MADE THEREFROM)

September 6, 2000

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115

Prior to examination on the merits, please add the following claims:

In the Claims:

~~13~~ ~~70~~. A branched primary alcohol composition having 8 to 36 carbon atoms, an average number of branched per molecule chain of at least 0.7, less than 0.5 atom % of quaternary carbon atoms, and wherein less than 5% of the alcohol molecules in the composition are linear alcohols.

~~14~~ ~~71~~. The composition of claim ~~70~~, wherein less than 3% of the alcohol molecules are linear.

~~15~~ ~~72~~. The composition of claim ~~70~~, comprising a sulfate of the alcohol composition.

~~16~~ ~~73~~. The composition of claim ~~70~~, comprising an ethoxysulfate of the alcohol composition.

~~17~~ ~~74~~. The composition of claim ~~70~~, having an average number of branches per molecule ranging from 0.7 to 2.1.

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¹⁸75. The composition of claim ¹⁷74, having an average number of branches per molecule ranging from 1.3 to 2.1.

¹³76. The composition of claim ¹³70, wherein the average chain length ranges from 11 to 19.

²⁰77. A biodegradable branched primary alcohol composition having from 8 to 36 carbon atoms, an average number of branches of at least 0.7, and wherein from 5-25% of the branching is at the C₂ position relative to the hydroxyl carbon atom, and from 10% to 50% of the branches are located at the C₃ position.

²⁰78. The composition of claim ²⁰77, having a carbon number ranging from 11 to 19.

²¹79. The composition of claim ²¹78, having an average number of branches ranging from 0.7 to 2.1.

²²80. The composition of claim ²²79, having less than 0.5 atom % quaternary carbon atoms.

²⁰81. The composition of claim ²⁰77, wherein less than 5% of the alcohol molecules are linear.

²⁰82. The composition of claim ²⁰77, comprising a sulfate of the composition.

²⁰83. The composition of claim ²⁰77, comprising an ethoxysulfate of the composition.

Respectfully submitted,

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